

# A Brighter Future for Every Child

Patrick M. Magoon Institute for Healthy Communities  
Annual Report — November 2022

Patrick M. Magoon  
Institute for Healthy Communities

 Ann & Robert H. Lurie  
Children's Hospital of Chicago®





In its second year since launching in fall 2020, the Patrick M. Magoon Institute for Healthy Communities grew exponentially through your support. We expanded our impact across Chicago and beyond to promote equitable care, create safer spaces and support families on the path to brighter futures.

Creating the conditions for optimal health requires the work of many. Our programs, as always, were guided by community needs and the voices and expertise of those who live, work and learn in the communities we are privileged to serve.

What we do today can improve child health in the future—whether that is tomorrow, next year or a decade from now. We are committed to creating transformative change and are deeply grateful that you share our passion for this work.

Through these efforts, we are reaching more children and changing the trajectory of their lives. None of this would be possible without your partnership and support.



Matthew M. Davis, MD, MAPP  
*Chair, Department of Pediatrics  
Founders' Board Centennial Professor in Pediatrics  
Executive Vice President and Chief, Community Health Transformation –  
Patrick M. Magoon Institute for Healthy Communities  
Head, Division of Advanced General Pediatrics and Primary Care*





# EQUITABLE CARE

Despite challenges including economic and racial segregation and the COVID-19 pandemic, Chicago's communities have demonstrated tremendous resilience guided by grassroots leadership to break the cycle of inequity. In partnership with our communities, we are enhancing access to opportunities and conditions that influence health—from early childhood to adulthood.



## Mobile Health Program

The Mobile Health program brings Lurie Children's primary care and specialty services to neighborhoods to remove barriers of time and travel. Last year, the Mobile Health unit visited 32 neighborhoods in 91 visits, including 24 schools. We launched a Mobile Asthma Clinic in Belmont Cragin, where childhood asthma rates are high. Each patient family is seen by a team of experts, including a pulmonary provider, asthma nurse, asthma educator and social worker.

### ON THE HORIZON

We are expanding our services with the addition of a new, state-of-the-art mobile unit equipped with features such as running water, wheelchair ramp, internet access and multiple clinic rooms. A larger mobile unit will allow us to serve more patients and increase the clinical services we provide.







## Austin Community Hub

In partnership with Stone Community Development Corporation (Stone CDC), we are building a facility in Austin to bring specialty care, mental health services and community-based programs directly to neighborhoods with greatest health inequities. The Magoon Institute and Stone CDC met with youth and community leaders to better understand their needs. Based on their input the facility will include clinic rooms, behavioral health offices and group therapy rooms, and community health training, education and meeting spaces.

### ON THE HORIZON

Over the coming year we will continue to meet with youth and community residents to finalize design and program development. We hope to begin construction in fall 2023, pending approvals. An estimated 6,000 patients will be cared for at the facility each year.





# ConnecTeen

To prevent and mitigate the effects of early childhood adversity, ConnecTeen links pregnant and parenting people and families to local services, including home visiting, doulas, prenatal classes, parent educators and parenting groups. We partner with 85 schools and 44 home visiting programs across Chicago. In 2022, 130+ pregnant and parenting youth were referred to ConnecTeen, 33% of whom were enrolled into services.

This year ConnecTeen launched bimonthly support groups in English and Spanish for young parents and caregivers. The groups discuss topics like socio-emotional development and forming secure attachments. In partnership with Heartland Alliance, ConnecTeen also hosts parenting support groups for unaccompanied underage migrants in partnership with Heartland Alliance.

## ON THE HORIZON

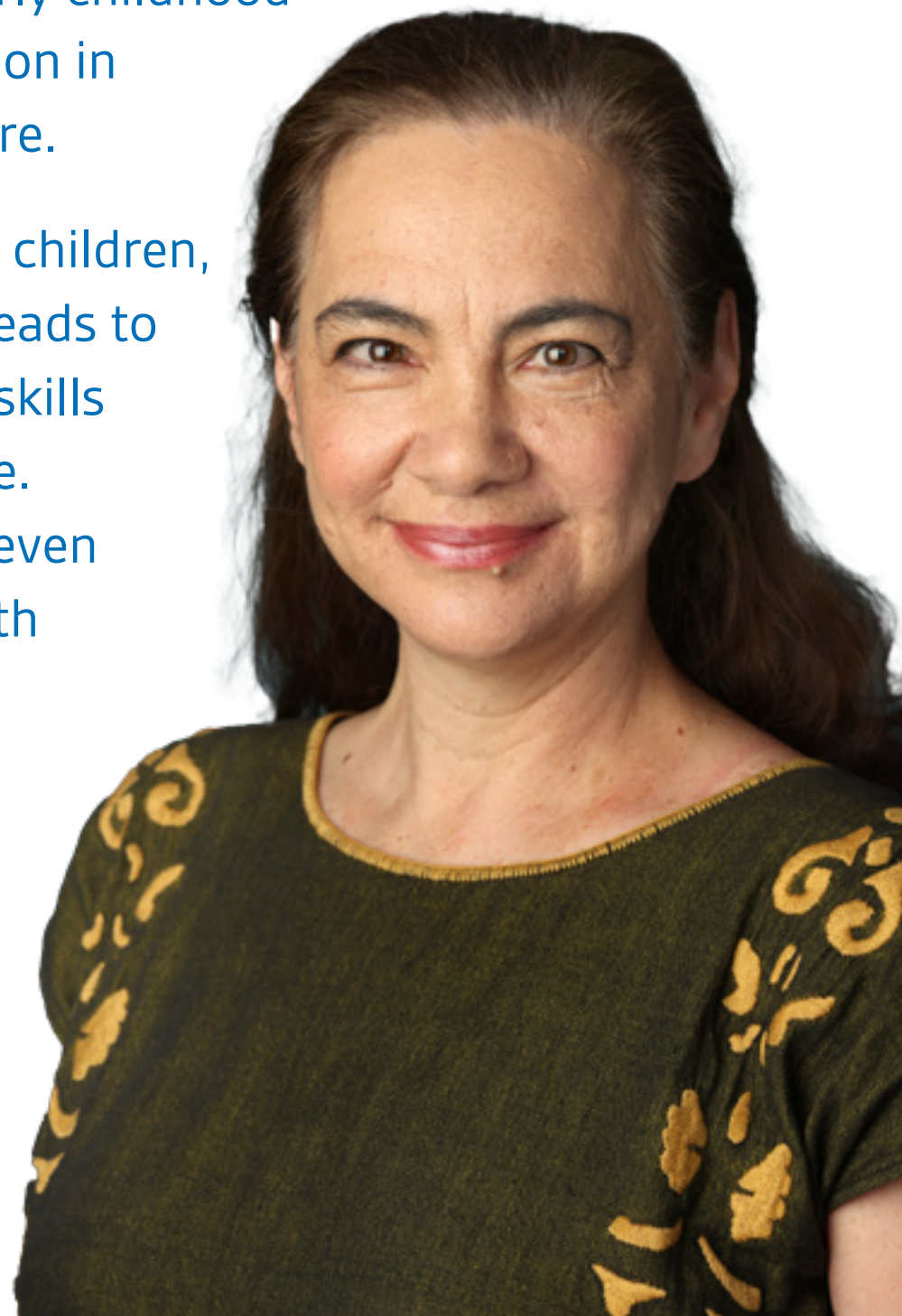
Lurie Children's will lead West Side Healthy Parents & Babies, a new West Side United initiative that will provide no-cost prenatal guidance and postpartum support for families through the infant's first year of life. The initiative aims to ensure access to prenatal care coordination and home visiting to the 7,000 individuals who give birth on the West Side each year. Parent educators hired from West Side communities will provide emotional and peer support. This initiative is a partnership with five birthing hospitals and numerous community-based and social services organizations.





Pediatrician **Mariana Glusman, MD**, was named Associate Medical Director of the Magoon Institute. Her areas of expertise include early childhood and literacy promotion in pediatric primary care.

"Reading aloud with children, starting in infancy, leads to improved language skills and basic knowledge. But the benefits go even further. Cuddling with a book and reading aloud is a fantastic way to promote safe, supportive and nurturing relationships."



"I frequently tell parents attending our support groups that they're coming in as caterpillars but will emerge as butterflies. I believe that early childhood is the foundation for the future, and I love being able to support parents during this tough period."



**Vanessa Avila, MSW**

Parent Educator, Maternal and Child Health\*

*\*Parent Educator is one of four new staff positions created in the Magoon Institute this past year.*





## Food Access

Food insecurity is prevalent in under-resourced communities, contributing to many poor health-related outcomes such as obesity, diabetes and hypertension. In FY22, social workers screened over 35,000 Lurie Children's patients for socioeconomic factors that impact health. Almost 2,000 were identified as experiencing food insecurity and, when possible, were provided with referrals to food pantries and other community resources.

### ON THE HORIZON

In the coming year, we are planning to add food pantries to clinics treating health conditions like diabetes or eating disorders for which access to healthy food is an essential part of care.

Lurie Children's is also involved in national efforts to address food insecurity. A leader in health and nutrition promotion and obesity prevention, the Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC) marked its 20th anniversary in November 2022 by honoring youth leaders and gathering stakeholders from across the nation. After reflecting on its progress, the program has set a course of action for 2023 and beyond that focuses on food, activity and nutrition.



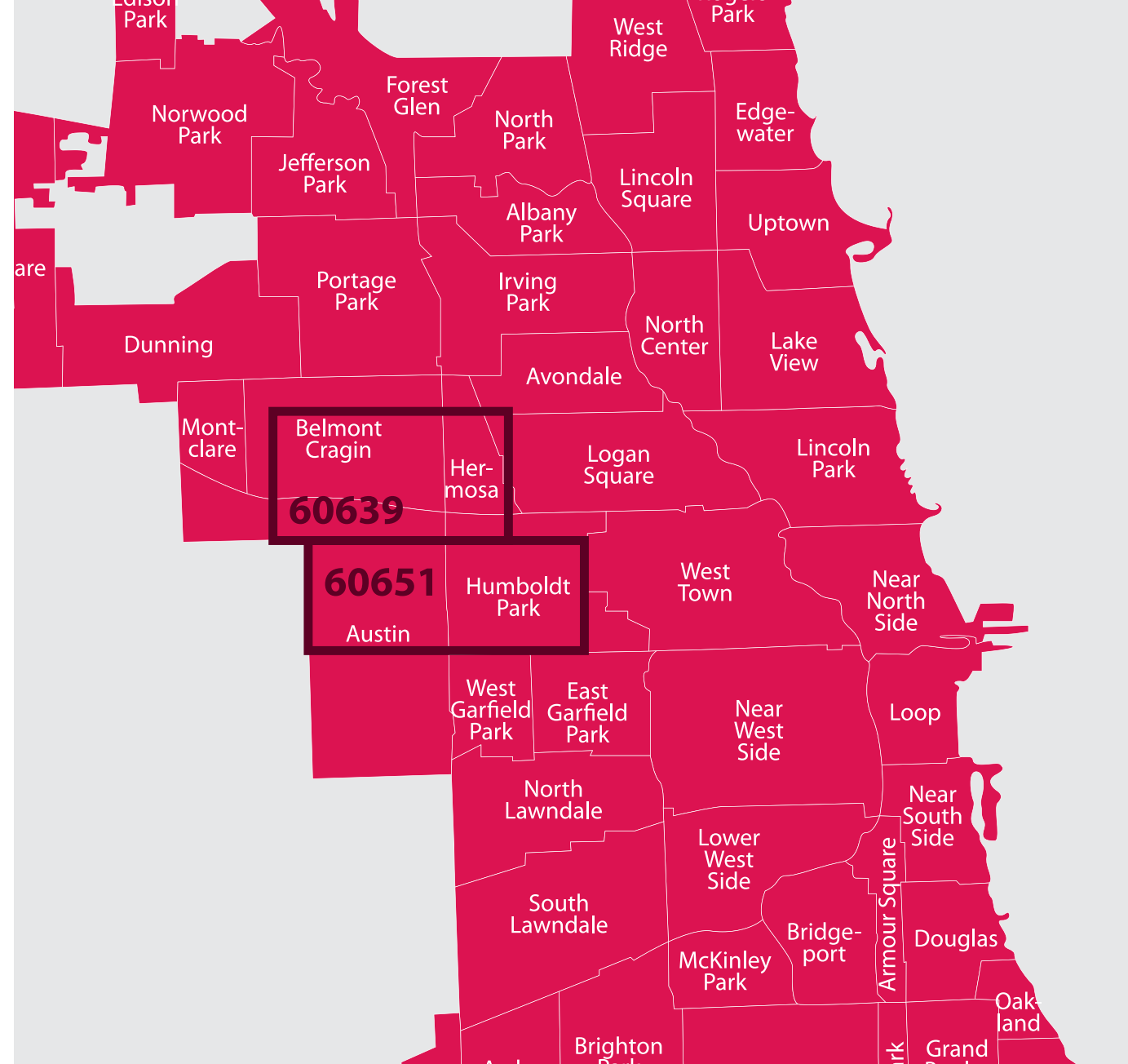
**7,000+  
POUNDS  
OF FOOD**

were distributed to patients via our Emergency Department and Uptown Clinic food pantries.

**5,000+  
POUNDS  
OF FOOD**

were delivered to the homes of 109 food insecure patient families, primarily on the city's South and West Sides.





## All Hands Health Network

In January 2022, our Care Coordination team launched the All Hands Health Network (AHHN), a program that screens families living in ZIP codes 60639 and 60651 to identify their needs and connect them with local, quality health and social services. AHHN is funded by Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and is one of just eight of its kind in the United States. The program has the opportunity to create a national model for a more holistic, cost-effective, preventive form of care for Medicaid patients with chronic conditions.

### ON THE HORIZON

Working closely with youth with the support of partners like Chicago Public Schools, the AHHN aims to have 10,000 youth complete an Annual Needs Assessment in 2023, which will enable us to provide more personalized resources and support.





A blue-tinted photograph of a woman and a child looking at a tablet together. The woman is on the right, and the child is on the left. They are both looking down at the tablet. The background is a solid blue color.

# SAFER SPACES

Every child deserves to grow up in a nurturing environment, free from harm. By building families' and communities' capacity and skills to raise safe, resilient and healthy youth, we can change the life trajectories for children and adolescents.



# Strengthening Chicago's Youth

Firearms are now the single leading cause of death for children and adolescents 0-19 years of age, with a staggering 83% increase in youth firearm fatalities over the past decade. Lurie Children's and Strengthening Chicago's Youth (SCY) are committed to reversing this unacceptable trend and mitigating the impact of violence, especially among Black and Hispanic/Latinx youth. SCY advocated for several bills designed to protect our communities from firearm injuries by educating families about safe firearm storage, distributing gun locks through pediatricians' offices and requiring universal background checks on all firearm sales. Communities United (CU) and Lurie Children's received a \$10 million award from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation for their [Healing Through Justice Initiative](#) to support youth leadership in transforming systems to be racially just and accountable to the communities they serve.

## ON THE HORIZON

Healing Through Justice will model how large health systems, like Lurie Children's, can effectively partner with youth and community leadership to significantly improve health outcomes.

In partnership with Cook County Health, by 2025, SCY's Juvenile Justice Collaborative (JJC) will expand its services to all eligible youth across Cook County to reduce racial disparities and minimize arrested youths' further involvement with the justice system.



[Listen here](#)







## Substance Use Prevention Program

A program of the Potocsnak Family Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, the Substance Use Prevention Program (SUPP) cares for youth experiencing substance use disorders and provides prevention and harm reduction education to patients and the community. SUPP began distributing naloxone, a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose, at the main hospital, in community spaces and via the Mobile Health unit. We also provide walk-in naloxone training and distribution open to all and provide overdose education and naloxone distribution to SUPP patients and families.

### ON THE HORIZON

We are evaluating ways to expand the naloxone training and distribution to patients and families who are prescribed opioids at Lurie Children's. With the growing prevalence of fentanyl, we also plan to distribute fentanyl test strips as part our harm reduction services to save lives.





# Injury Prevention

Overall unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death and long-term disability for children ages 1 to 19. In most cases, these injuries are preventable. Our Unintentional Injury Prevention program reached thousands of families through education and outreach to address some of the leading causes of unintentional injury:

- 1,016 car seats distributed
- 50 car seat safety trainings provided to 466 families
- 21 new Safe Sleep Ambassadors from Chicago's South and West Sides trained
- 1,205 safe sleep kits distributed
- 21% of cribs distributed were sent to families in 6 communities with high rates of infant deaths. Three months after receiving a crib, 94% of respondents reported still using the crib as a sleep space for their baby.

## ON THE HORIZON

Lurie Children's is awaiting its Cribs for Kids National Safe Sleep Hospital Certification, which recognizes hospitals for their commitment to infant safe sleep. All in-house staff are trained in Infant Safe Sleep as part of their mandatory staff education, and a free infant sleep sack will be provided to all infants who are discharged from the hospital.





“In 2020, 20,000 babies died before their first birthday, with SIDS being the 3rd leading cause of death disproportionately impacting Black and Brown babies in Chicago. This work is important to me because it allows me to engage with community leaders, agencies and families to combat the racial health gap by improving environments, changing minds and behaviors and saving lives.”



**Dominique Johnson**  
Safe Sleep Coordinator

“The good news is that...injuries [from vehicle collisions] are preventable and predictable. The best part of my work is educating parents so we can change these numbers together.”



**Catalina Zamora**  
Buckle Up Coordinator







# BRIGHTER FUTURES

Chicago's Black and Hispanic/Latinx communities face disproportionate barriers to economic stability. We help children and youth realize their potential by supporting their career development, school environments and the communities where they live.



# Mentorship and Workforce Development

To promote diversity within the healthcare workforce pipeline, our Mentorship and Workforce Development programs provide students from under-resourced areas with real-world healthcare industry experience through internships, shadowing opportunities and training. We are serving record numbers of young people—from middle school to college—in 16 programs. Last year we engaged 377 students, and we continue to expand recruitment to more schools and community partners.

In 2022, Lurie Children's hired 30 program alumni in areas across the hospital, including pulmonary medicine, cardiology, adolescent medicine, supply chain, epilepsy, neonatology and security.

## ON THE HORIZON

We plan to expand the Youth Enhancing Skills (YES!) program to serve more middle school students that feed into our partner high schools, ensuring that students can participate in Lurie Children's programs for multiple years.

We also will begin offering career coaching to all program alumni to support their ongoing career development.. Students will learn job search strategies, interviewing and negotiating skills and how to do self-assessments.





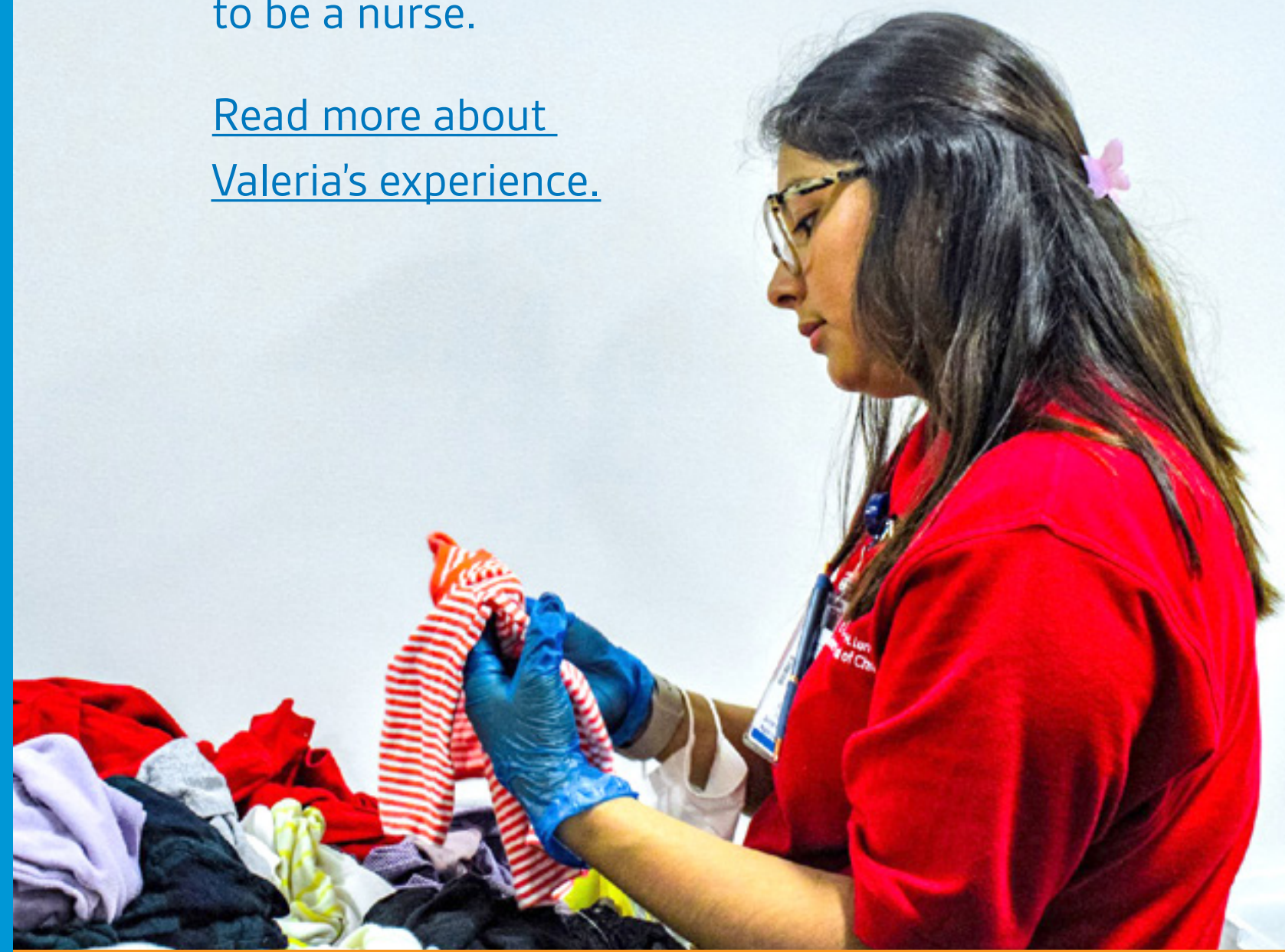
**Jose Muñoz, LCSW**, an alumnus of the Discovering Healthcare Careers program, joined us last year as Program Coordinator, Mentorship & Workforce Development. He tells students: *“I see greatness in you. Let me help you see it.”*



“When children see doctors or nurses with their skin tone, it’s inspiring to them—it’s inspiring even to me now.”

Valeria, an alumna of the Mentorship & Workforce Development programs, is studying to be a nurse.

[Read more about Valeria's experience.](#)





# Center for Childhood Resilience (CCR)

Teachers and caregivers play an important role in helping infants, children and youth develop a sense of safety and security. A program of the Pritzker Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, CCR builds capacity of school staff and leaders to address the increased mental health needs of students, especially those from communities with high rates of trauma and chronic stress.

In partnership with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) using Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER II) from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education at the US Department of Education, CCR is leading the Resilience Education to Advance Community Healing (REACH) Statewide Initiative to train educators, school mental health professionals and community members to recognize the signs and symptoms of trauma and develop action plans to address students' social-emotional and mental health needs. The initiative will impact over 800 elementary and high schools that collectively serve over 240,000 students.

## ON THE HORIZON

In partnership with Chicago Public Schools, CCR will expand the Behavioral Health Team (BHT) Model to all district schools, reaching 330,000+ youth from pre-K to 12th grade by school year 2023-2024. The BHT Model, developed by CCR, provides a structure that schools can follow to establish, maintain and improve their multi-disciplinary health teams.







## Investing in Our Communities

Recognizing the link between health and economic vitality, we invest in our communities through hiring and procurement initiatives and community development projects. In the past year, we have:

- Provided \$500,000 in loans to support community development projects on the West Side of Chicago
- Hired 245 new employees who live in low or very low opportunity communities
- Invested \$25,000 in the West Side United small business grant pool and worked to engage grantees in Lurie Children's supply chain

Through myriad volunteer opportunities, physicians and staff support neighborhoods throughout Chicago. Annually, they dedicate 1,400+ hours volunteering at events such as neighborhood cleanups and school supply drives, distributing groceries at food pantries and educating families about health and safety.





# GROUNDNDED IN RESEARCH

Our initiatives are driven by community input and data to ensure we have the best possible impact.



A 33-year follow up shows that graduates of Chicago Youth Programs (CYP), which provides mentoring and social services combined with primary care, are twice as likely to graduate college and have a higher standard of living than their parents. **Learn more about CYP and how one graduate is making a difference.**



We engaged the community through an intensive assessment to ensure our programs and strategies are responding to their needs and priorities. Our **Community Health Implementation Strategy** will guide our work for the next three years.





# With Thanks

Combining passion and purpose, the Magoon Institute addresses the growing disparities and barriers that increase risks for poor health. We value your partnership in achieving our mission. Your commitment has made a very real difference in the lives of thousands of children, youth and families we reached this year.

**For that, we are truly grateful.**

